Revival of Sick Industries by BIFR

1123. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industries revived so far through BIFR since its inception;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide financial power to BIFR to implement the scheme for revival of sick industries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that since its inception, it has declared 108 sick industrial companies as 'no longer sick' after successful implementation of revival schemes sanctioned/approval.

(b) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(c) Does not arise.

Supreme Court Bench in South India

1124. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some social and non-Governmental organisations have submitted Memoranda recently for consideration for setting up a Supreme Court Bench in South India;

(b) if so, the details therefor, and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c). Representations/suggestions have been received from time to time from certain State Governments, Bar Associations etc. for establishing Benches of Supreme Court in various parts of the country, including South India.

According to Article 130 of the Constitution, the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places, as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint.

No proposal has been received from the Chief Justice of India in this regard.

Procurement of Iron-ore by MMTC

1125. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of iron-ore procured by Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation from Banspani-Barajamda sector in Orissa for export during each of the last three years;

(b) whether iron-ore procured from this sector for export through Paradip Port has been declining every year;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor, and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the procurement from the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). The total quantity of iron-ore procured from Banspani-Barajamda Sector was as follows :

(in lakh metric tonnes)

Year	Quantity	
	Total for Orissa State	Banspam-Barajamda Sector
1993-94	11.24	8.15
1994-95	11.09	6.99
1995-96	07.37	6.00

(c) The reasons for the decline in the quantities are :

- Higher demand from the domestic industries within the Region;
- Due to modification in the EXIM Policy 1992-97, iron ore mine owners from the Region have been permitted to export iron ore directly and therefore were not able to supply the required quantities to MMTC for exports.

(d) Steps taken by MMTC to increase procurement of iron ore from this sector include :

(i) increase in the price of lumpy iron ore by 10% for supplies during 1995-96/1996-97.

(ii) removal of quantity restrictions.

(iii) commitment from the mine owners for assured supplies in 1995-96/1996-97.

(iv) increase in transport subsidy by 10% for Koira sector.

[Translation]

Smuggling of Gold

1126. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of gold which was smuggled in the country dunng the last year;

(b) the number of persons arrested in this regard; and